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#### [Notice 1]

### National Fire Codes: Request for Comments on NFPA Technical Committee Reports

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, DOC.

**ACTION:** Notice of request comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) revises existing standards and adopts new standards twice a year. At its Fall Meeting in November or its Annual Meeting in May, the NFPA acts on recommendations made by its technical committees.

The purpose of this notice is to request comments on the technical reports which will be presented at NFPA's 1996 Fall Meeting. The publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of NFPA is undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the standards referenced in the notice.

**DATES:** Nineteen reports are published in the 1996 Fall Meeting Report on Proposals and will be available on February 2, 1996. Comments received on or before April 12, 1996 will be considered by the respective NFPA Committees before final action is taken on the proposals.

**ADDRESSES:** The 1996 Fall Meeting Report on Proposals is available from NFPA, Publications Department, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101. Comments on the reports should be submitted to Arthur E. Cote, P.E., Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Arthur E. Cote, P.E., Secretary, Standards Council, at above address, (617) 770-3000.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Standards developed by the technical committees of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) have been used by various Federal Agencies as the basis for Federal regulations concerning fire safety. The NFPA standards are known collectively as the National Fire Codes. Often, the Office of the Federal Register approves the incorporation by reference of these

standards under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

Revisions of existing standards and adoption of new standards are reported by the technical committees at the NFPA's Fall Meeting in November or at the Annual Meeting in May each year. The NFPA invites public comment on its Report on Proposals.

#### Request for Comments

Interested persons may participate in revision of NFPA Standards by submitting written data, views, or arguments to Arthur E. Cote, P.E., Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101. Commenters may use the forms provided for comments in the 1990 Fall Meeting Reports on Proposals. Each person submitting a comment should include his or her name and address, identify the notice, and give reasons for any recommendations. Comments received on or before 1996 will be considered by the NFPA before final action is taken on the proposals.

Copies of all written comments received and the disposition of those comments by the NFPA committees will be published as the 1996 Fall Meeting Report on Comments by September 27, 1996, prior to the Fall Meeting.

A copy of the Report on Comments will be sent automatically to each commenter. Action on the reports of the Technical Committees (adoption or rejection) will be taken at the Fall Meeting, November 18-20, 1996 in Nashville, Tennessee, by NFPA members.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 272.

Dated: November 20, 1995.

Samuel Kramer,

*Associate Director.*

### 1996 FALL MEETING REPORT ON PROPOSALS

[P = Partial revision; W = Withdrawal; R = Reconfirmation; N = New; C = Complete Revision]

Doc. No.	Title	Action
NFPA 1 .....	Fire Prevention Code.	C
NFPA 31 .....	Oil-Burning Equipment.	P
NFPA 36 .....	Solvent Extraction Plants.	P
NFPA 51 .....	Oxygen-Fuel Gas Systems for Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes.	P
NFPA 69 .....	Explosion Prevention Systems.	C

### 1996 FALL MEETING REPORT ON PROPOSALS—Continued

[P = Partial revision; W = Withdrawal; R = Reconfirmation; N = New; C = Complete Revision]

Doc. No.	Title	Action
NFPA 96 .....	Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations.	P
NFPA 101 .....	Safety to Life from Fire in Buildings and Structures.	P
NFPA 415 .....	Standard on Airport Terminal Buildings, Fueling Ramp Drainage, and Loading Walkways (Incorporating NFPA 416 and NFPA 417).	C
NFPA 471 .....	Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents.	P
NFPA 472 .....	Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents.	C
NFPA 473 .....	EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents.	P
NFPA 902M .....	Fire Reporting Field Incident Manual.	C
NFPA 1402 .....	Building Fire Service Training Centers.	P
NFPA 1403 .....	Live Fire Training Evolutions (Incorporating NFPA 1406).	C
NFPA 1451 .....	Fire Service Vehicle Risk Management Program.	N
NFPA 1961 .....	Fire Hose .....	R

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Army Science Board; Notice of Closed Meeting

In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following Committee Meeting:

*Name of Committee:* Army Science Board (ASB).

*Date of Meeting:* 28 November 1995.

*Time of Meeting:* 1000–1600.

*Place:* Pentagon—Washington, DC.

*Agenda:* The Army Science Board's Ad Hoc Study on "Reengineering the Acquisition and Modernization Processes of the Institutional Army" will meet to discuss the current status of Army Modernization and to discuss plans to reengineer the Acquisition and Modernization process. Discussion will include the current shortfalls in modernization and the attendant vulnerabilities to the U.S. Army. This meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with Section 552b(c) of Title 5, U.S.C., specifically subparagraph (1) thereof, and Title 5, U.S.C., Appendix 2, subsection 10(d). The classified and unclassified matters to be discussed are so inextricably intertwined so as to preclude opening any portion of this meeting. For further information, please contact Michelle Diaz at (703) 695-0781.

Michelle P. Diaz,

*Acting Administrative Officer, Army Science Board.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Providing Environmental Oversight and Monitoring at the INEL

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) intends to negotiate and award on a noncompetitive basis Grant No. DE-FG07-96ID13373 to the State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare (Recipient). The award has an estimated overall total value of \$15,000,000, of which DOE's share will be 100%. The award will allow the Recipient to ensure the DOE operations are fully accountable in the areas of environmental protection, public health, and safety. The State and DOE entered into an agreement in principle to assure the citizens of Idaho that health, safety, and the environment are being protected through DOE and State actions. This grant will provide funding to the State by DOE to carry out various environmental oversight and monitoring activities. A similar past agreement was very successful; therefore, DOE and Idaho determined to enter into a similar agreement for another five years.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marshall C. Garr, Contract Specialist, (208) 526-1536, U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 850 Energy Drive, Mail Stop 1221, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** It is anticipated that the award will provide the benefit of building public

confidence in DOE programs through the State's independent evaluation of DOE's environmental and waste management programs. The work anticipated under this new award is expected to have a continued impact towards meeting this benefit. The non-competitive award justification is Criteria (C) of 10 CFR 600.7(b)(2)(i), as follows:

(C) The applicant is a unit of government and the activity to be supported is related to performance of a governmental function within the subject jurisdiction, thereby precluding DOE provision of support to another entity.

The statutory authorities for the proposed award are Sections 102(11) and 102(13) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7112(11) and 7112(13)).

Procurement Request Number: 07-96ID13373.000.

Dated: November 21, 1995.

R. Jeffrey Hoyles,

*Director, Procurement Services Division.*

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### Chicago Operations Office; Award Based on Acceptance of an Unsolicited Application

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of financial assistance award in response to an unsolicited financial assistance application.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy announces that pursuant to 10 CFR 600.14(e), it plans to negotiate and award Grant Number DE-FG02-96CH10851 to the Institute of Regulatory Science

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The anticipated objective of the award is to provide for the application of "Best Available Science" (BAS) to the reevaluation of assessment methods based on scientific knowledge rather than opinions or value judgements. This proposal provides for a unique approach to choose the best available scientific information in that it suggests a clear separation of science from societal goals to enhance the accuracy of estimating environmental risks in an attempt to limit costly adverse effects. These goals will provide scientifically based data for others to utilize in pursuing environmental issues in the educational arena and provide the general public as well as the professional societies, knowledge of how risk factors were determined by making consensus reports more accessible. This proposal

provides a public service by providing the public with the best and most accurate scientific information with respect to utilizing the Best Available Science. DOE's Office of Environmental Management believes that there is a high probability of achieving the objectives.

The public is greatly served if environmental decisions would be based on BAS. It is the belief of the grantee that objectively computed risks will be somewhat lower than those based upon societal objectives. The lower the risk, the smaller the costs for adverse effects caused within the human health and environmental areas. It is likely that if this approach is successful the cost of environmental protection would be significantly reduced. Consequently, a higher level of environmental protection could be achieved by the current level of funding.

Additional benefits of this project are enhancement of public and university education and expand the availability of relevant published scientific information. The public will have easier access to data presented in relevant papers and consensus reports regarding BAS through their publication in the journal "Technology:Journal of the Franklin Institute" and a new "Encyclopedia of Environment." Education will be enhanced by the utilization of high school or community college minority students in researching environmental issues while applying BAS, participating with professional organizations in providing environmental courses, participation in technical conferences to discuss BAS for environmental issues, as well as participating in technical panels and making presentations to various groups regarding BAS in human health and environmental concerns.

The grantee plans to obtain this objective by educating students and professional organizations about the benefits and needs of BAS in relation to existing practices; and the dissemination of scientific information through the Technology publication and the new Encyclopedia of Environment. To assure reliance upon BAS the grantee proposes the utilization of not-for-profit professional organizations which include the following: (1) the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME); (2) the American Association for the Advancement of Technology (AAAT); (3) the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES); and (4) the National Council and Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRPM). These organizations can provide peer-review of scientific aspects of the societal decisions, can reach a